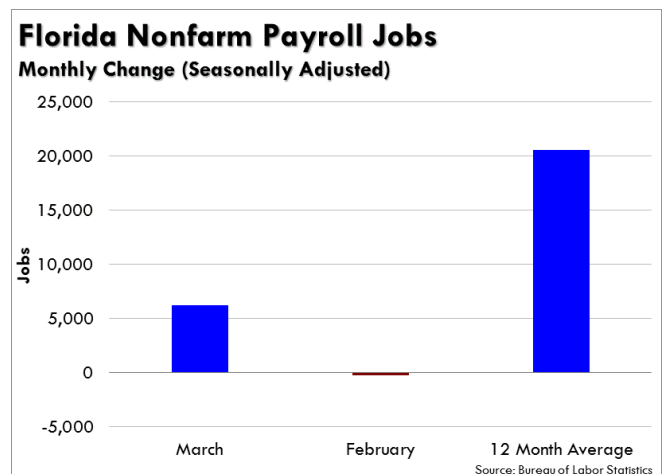
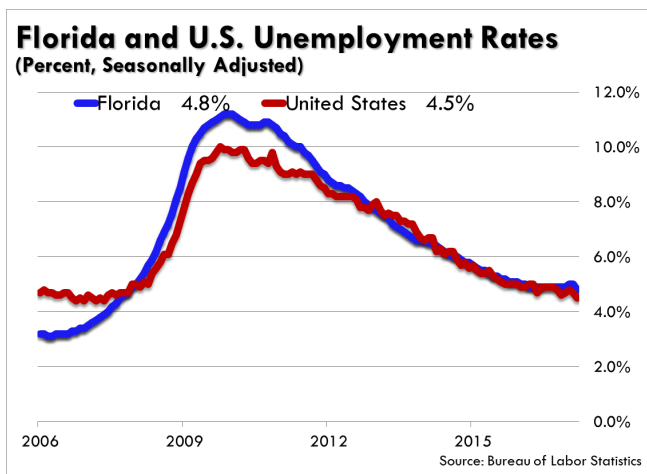


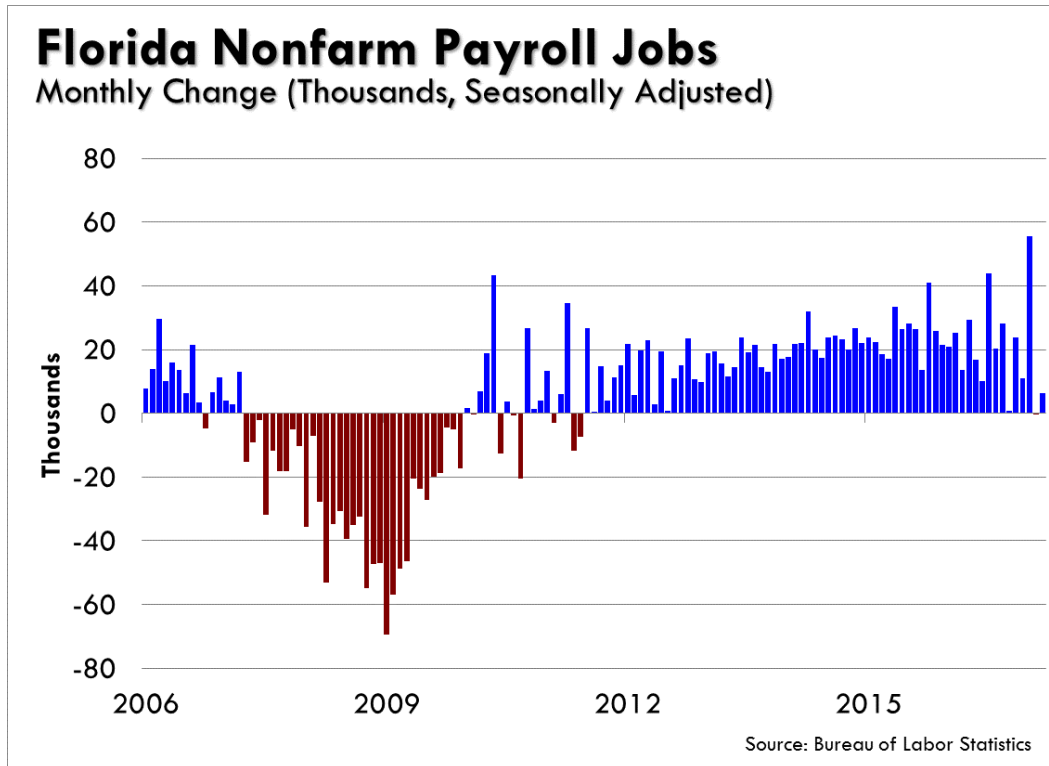


April 23, 2017

## Summary

- **Florida added 6,200 jobs and the unemployment rate declined by 0.2 percentage point to 4.8 percent in March** according to Bureau of Labor Statistics (BLS) data.
- **Over the past twelve months, Florida added 246,100 jobs** and the unemployment rate fell by 0.1 percentage point from 4.9 percent.
- **In March, Florida's private sector added 1,700 jobs** and over the past twelve months it created 233,800 jobs.
- The number of **unemployed Floridians fell by 18,147 in March**, and over the past year 341,985 Floridians found jobs.
- Florida's **labor force participation rate increased to 60 percent** from 59.8 percent in March. Since last year, the labor force participation rate rose 0.9 percentage point.
- The national unemployment rate **declined by 0.2 percentage point to 4.5 percent in March**. State employment and unemployment data for April is scheduled for release on May 19, 2017. The national employment situation report for April will be released on Friday, May 5, 2017.





### **Florida Payroll Employment**

Florida added 6,200 jobs, or 0.07 percent, on a seasonally adjusted basis during March. In the prior month, Florida lost 200 jobs. Over the past twelve months, nonfarm payrolls in Florida increased by 246,100, or 2.96 percent. Florida nonfarm payroll employment has increased in 11 of the past 12 months.

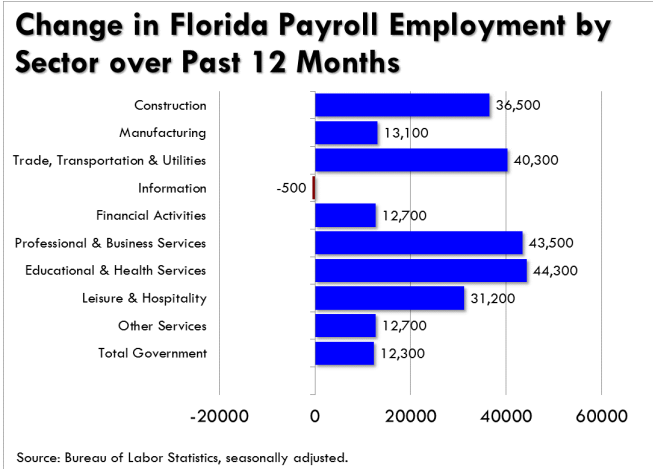
Nationally, nonfarm payrolls increased by 98,000 jobs in March, or 0.07 percent. Over the 12-month period ending March 2017, nonfarm payrolls grew by 2,185,000 jobs, or 1.52 percent. Florida ranks 40th among the 50 states and the District of Columbia for percentage gain in nonfarm payroll employment over the past 12 months.

During March, Florida's private-sector added 1,700 jobs, or 0.02 percent. The private-sector in Florida added 6,500 jobs in the prior month. Over the past twelve months, private-sector payrolls in Florida increased by 233,800, or 3.24 percent. Florida private-sector payroll employment has increased in each of the past 12 months.

Nationally, private-sector payroll jobs increased by 89,000 jobs in March, or 0.07 percent. Over the past 12 months, the nation's economy has added 2,033,000 jobs in the private-sector, an increase of 1.67 percent. Florida ranks 34th among the 50 states and the District of Columbia for percentage gain in private-sector payroll employment over the past 12 months.

The best performing sectors on a seasonally adjusted basis during March were Educational & Health Services (+4,700) and Total Government (+4,500). The poorest performing sectors during the month were Leisure & Hospitality (-9,400) and Other Services (-2,200).

The best performing sectors during the last twelve months were Educational & Health Services (+44,300) and Professional & Business Services (+43,500). The poorest performing sectors during the last twelve months were Information (-500) and Total Government (+12,300).



## **Florida Labor Force Statistics**

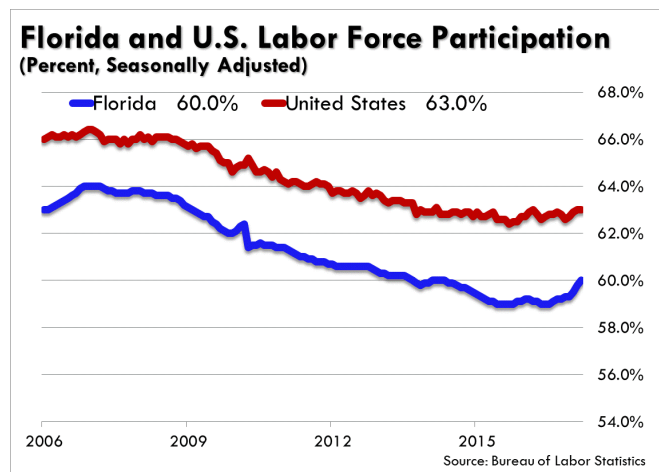
### *Labor Force Participation*

The labor force participation rate in Florida rose to 60.0 percent in March from 59.8 percent the prior month. Among the 50 states and the District of Columbia, 42 have a higher labor force participation rate than Florida. The labor force participation rate in Florida is unchanged from a year earlier. The labor force participation rate is the percentage of the civilian noninstitutionalized population age 16 and older who are employed or actively looking for work.

The 10-year high for the labor force participation rate in Florida was 63.9 percent in April 2007. The series high for the labor force participation rate in Florida occurred in March 2007 when the labor force participation rate hit 64.0 percent. The 10-year low for the labor force participation rate was 59.0 percent in July 2016. The series low for the labor force participation rate occurred in January 1977 when the labor force participation rate hit 54.8 percent. The national labor force participation rate was unchanged at 63.0 percent, but remains near its 38-year low of 62.4 percent.

### *Employment-to-Population Ratio*

The employment-to-population ratio, or the percentage of the Florida civilian noninstitutionalized population 16 years and older counted as employed, rose to 57.2 percent in March from 56.9 percent the prior month. Among the 50 states and the District of Columbia, 42 have higher employment-to-



population ratios than Florida. The employment-to-population ratio in Florida is 1.0 percentage point higher than a year earlier.

The 10-year high for the employment-to-population ratio in Florida was 61.5 percent in April 2007. The series high for the employment-to-population ratio in Florida occurred in January 2007 when the employment-to-population ratio hit 61.8 percent. The 10-year low for the employment-to-population ratio was 54.7 percent in April 2010. The series low for the employment-to-population ratio occurred in March 1977 when the employment-to-population ratio was 49.9 percent.

The national employment-to-population ratio rose by 0.1 percentage point to 60.1 percent in March. That rate was 0.2 percentage point higher than a year earlier. The all-time high for the employment-to-population ratio was 64.7 in April 2000. The 10-year high for the employment-to-population ratio was 63.4 percent in December 2006. The recent low occurred in October 2013 when the employment-to-population ratio dipped to 58.2 percent. The last time the employment-to-population ratio posted a reading lower than 58.2 percent was July 1983.

